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December 18, 2012

KANSAS BULLETIN NO. KS300-13-30

SUBJECT: LTP—Environmental Quality Incentives Program—Ranking Categories and Eligible Practices

Purpose: To cancel Bulletin KS300-13-8 and reissue the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Kansas General Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) ranking categories and eligible practices lists

Expiration Date: September 30, 2014

This bulletin replaces Bulletin KS300-13-8. The following changes were made to this bulletin.

- The following conservation practices (CPs) will revert back to their original practice names. The new practice names will be used in FY 2014.
 - CP 360–Closure of Waste Impoundments
 - CP 367–Waste Facility Cover
 - o CP 516-Pipeline
- CP 360-Closure of Waste Impoundments has been added to the Livestock Waste Ranking Category.
- CP 595–Integrated Pest Management has been removed from the Livestock Waste Ranking Category.
- CP 528–Prescribed Grazing has been added to the Water Quantity and the Water Quantity Quick Response Areas (QRAs) ranking categories.
- The following Conservation Activity Plans (CAPs) have been added as eligible CPs.
 - Forest Management CAP (added to Forestland Health Ranking Category)
 - Drainage Water Management CAP (added to Water Quality Ranking Category)
- The payment limitation for management practices for \$50,000 per contract and per participant by ranking category has been removed and is no longer a requirement.
 - The new payment limitations for management practices are listed in the FY 2013 EQIP Payment Schedule.

(more)

DIST: A, F, S, C. Nelson, Volkman

Helping People Help the Land

The FY 2013 General EQIP eligible practices lists contain the CPs for financial assistance (FA) for each ranking category (Attachments 1 through 10).

NOTE: Additional requirements and/or limitations are outlined in the forthcoming FY 2013 Kansas Practice Payment Schedule.

The new Kansas Payment Schedule will be utilized for administering FY 2013 EQIP. This schedule will include the regionalized CPs and scenarios. The state office (SO) will be responsible for posting the payment schedule on the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) under Section I–Cost Data. The SO will be entering the EQIP payment schedule data into the Programs Contracting System (ProTracts) and Customer Service Toolkit (CST). Area offices (AOs) will be notified when this is completed.

New/Revised Ranking Categories

CP 580, Streambank Restoration, will be no longer available under the following ranking categories.

- Sedimentation Above Federal Reservoirs
- Tribal
- Water Quality

CP 580 will be available under the Stream System Restoration ranking category. Guidance for this ranking category is forthcoming and will have a separate application cutoff date.

The Wildlife Habitat (WLH) ranking category has been revised as a result of the unavailability of general Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) funds. See Attachment 7 for the revised WLH eligible practices list.

The Water Quality/Cropland Health ranking category has been separated for FY 2013 and Cropland Health has been renamed Soil Health. See Attachments 9 and 10 for the significant eligible practices changes.

The following CPs have been <u>added</u> to the Forestland Health Ranking Category.

- CP 106–Forest Management Plan
- CP 142–Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan
- CP 146–Pollinator Habitat Management Plan

The following CPs have been **added** to the Grazing Lands Health Ranking Category.

- CP 110-Grazing Management Plan
- CP 142-Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan
- CP 146-Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan
- CP 393–Filter Strip
- CP 511–Forage Harvest Management
- CP 587–Structure for Water Control

The following CPs have been added to the Livestock Waste Ranking Category.

- CP 102–Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
- CP 104–Nutrient Management Plan
- CP 114–Integrated Pest Management Plan
- CP 328–Conservation Crop Rotation
- CP 329–Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed
- CP 360-Closure of Waste Impoundments
- CP 391-Riparian Forest Buffer
- CP 490-Tree/Shrub Site Preparation

The following CPs have been **removed** from the Livestock Waste Ranking Category.

- CP 353–Monitoring Well
- CP 449–Irrigation Water Management
- CP 595–Integrated Pest Management
- CP 633–Waste Recycling

The following CPs have been <u>added</u> to the Sedimentation Above Federal Reservoirs Ranking Category.

- CP 104–Nutrient Management Plan
- CP 114–Integrated Pest Management Plan
- CP 146–Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan
- CP 656–Constructed Wetland
- CP 659–Wetland Enhancement

The following CPs have been <u>removed</u> from the Sedimentation Above Federal Reservoirs Ranking Category.

- CP 462–Precision Land Forming
- CP 580–Streambank and Shoreline Protection
- CP 585–Stripcropping
- CP 633–Waste Recycling

The Following CPs have been **added** to the Tribal Ranking Category.

- CP 102–Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
- CP 104-Nutrient Management Plan
- CP 110–Grazing Management Plan
- CP 114–Integrated Pest Management Plan
- CP 142–Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan
- CP 146–Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan
- CP 367–Roofs and Cover
- CP 511-Forage Harvest Management
- CP 659–Wetland Enhancement

The following CPs have been **removed** from the Tribal Ranking Category.

- CP 353–Monitoring Well
- CP 462–Precision Land Forming
- CP 580 Streambank and Shoreline Protection
- CP 585–Stripcropping
- CP 633–Waste Recycling

The following CPs has been **added** to the Water Quantity Ranking Category.

- CP 114-Integrated Pest Management
- CP 118-Irrigation Water Management
- CP 146–Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan
- CP 528–Prescribed Grazing
- CP 659–Wetland Enhancement

The following CP has been **removed** from the Water Quantity Ranking Category.

CP 656–Constructed Wetland

The following CPs has been <u>added</u> to the Water Quantity Quick Response Areas (QRAs) Ranking Category.

- CP 146-Pollinator Habitat Enhancement
- CP 550–Range Planting
- CP 528–Prescribed Grazing
- CP 659–Wetland Enhancement

Changed Eligible CPs

- CP 351–Well Decommissioning has been renamed Water Well Decommissioning.
- CP 353–Monitoring Well has been <u>removed</u> from the payment schedule.
- CP 633–Waste Recycling has been **removed** from the payment schedule.

FY 2013 Ranking Categories

The ranking categories for FY 2013 are:

- Forestland Health*
- Grazing Lands Health*
- Livestock Waste*
- Sedimentation Above of Federal Reservoirs* (limited to watersheds above a federal reservoir)
- Soil Health* (New)
- Stream System Restoration* (New) (Limited to targeted watersheds)
- Tribal
- Water Quality* (New)
- Water Quantity*
- Water Quantity–QRA* (Limited to the QRAs)
- Wildlife Habitat*

* Limited Resource Farmers/Ranchers (LRF/R), Beginning Farmers/Ranchers (BF/R), and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers/Ranchers (SDF/R) have separate ranking categories available. LRF/R, BF/R and SDF/R may apply under the ranking category specific to their resource concern or their specific ranking category, but not both.

CAPs

All CAP ranking categories have been removed. CAPs are now made available as eligible CPs under applicable ranking categories. The following CAPs are now eligible CPs in applicable ranking categories (see ranking category eligible CPs lists).

- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
- Drainage Water Management (New)
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (New)
- Forest Management Plan (New)
- Grazing Management Plan (New)
- Integrated Pest Management Plan (New)
- Irrigation Water Management Plan
- Nutrient Management Plan
- Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Management Plan (New)
- Transition from Irrigation to Dryland Plan

A single, stand-alone application will be received by participants who desire a CAP to be developed by a certified technical service provider (TSP). The CAP will be scheduled and completed during the first 12 months after obligation. Payments will be made to the participant for CAP development once the TSP has provided appropriate statement of work (SOW) deliverables, documentation, and certification for the CAP.

Eligible producers may submit applications for the development of multiple CAPs; however, only one CAP contract may be developed on an eligible land unit (e.g., field) at the same time. Contracting of multiple CAP contracts on the same land unit is prohibited except for Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) and Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP) CAPs (AgEMP CAPs are only available in the On-Farm Energy Initiative).

Conservation Practice Payment Limitations

The following CPs FA CAPs are:

- 378–Pond–\$6,000/no.
- 441–Irrigation System–Microirrigation (Conversion from Surface and Conversion from Water Drive)–\$650/ac
- 442-Irrigation System, Sprinkler (Conversion from Surface)-\$650/ac
- 634–Waste Transfer–\$35,000/contract

NOTE: Payment limitations for management practices are listed in the Fiscal Year 2013 EQIP Payment Schedule.

Supervisory district conservationists shall ensure payment limitations are correctly entered for each applicable ProTracts contract item number.

Program Practice Narratives

Field offices should continue to use the program specific narratives in CST. If an application is not selected for funding, the CST conservation plan will need to be updated with non-program type narratives.

Contact: Forward feedback through established channels to Corey L. Nelson, Resource Conservationist, at 785-823-4580, or email corey.nelson@ks.usda.gov.

/(Signed) JEFFREY L. GROSS, ACTING FOR

ERIC B. BANKS
State Conservationist

Attachments